

EDITORIALS

TAKING A STAND

One of the devices by which passengers who ride the New Bern Avenue and Martin Street buses while away the weary minutes waiting for a bus downtown is to count the buses on other lines which pass on their way to outlying sections of the city in other directions. We say "device" instead of pastime advisedly, for a pastime is usually thought of as something which gives pleasure, or at least does not give pain. The weary waiters certainly do not get any pleasure out of this device. Instead their choler tends to rise with each passing moment, because they count so many before they have to give up their occupation to board the bus they have been waiting for.

This feeling of impotent indignation gets a further boost when after 15 or 20 minutes of standing on the corner they must board a bus already full because of the crowds that accumulate at every stop over so long a wait. One may go for days without the experience of occupying a seat, for the buses have 40 or more passengers by the time they leave the corner of Blount and Hargett, and often before leaving the Fayetteville Street stop. This is happening, not during rush hours, but at mid-day and early afternoon. Meanwhile buses are whizzing up Hillsboro Street on the several lines that go out that way at the rate of one every three or four minutes, new big buses, with ten or twelve passengers, and sometimes less.

From 9:30 in the morning until nearly 1 P. M. a bus is scheduled to run only every 40 minutes over the Martin Street line, and one every 40 minutes over the New Bern Avenue line. These runs are scheduled to mesh so that there is a bus every 20 minutes during these seven hours over one or the other of these lines. Before the great traffic improvement worked out by the gracious co-operation of the Raleigh city administration and the Carolina Power and Light Company there used to be a bus every ten minutes.

Raleigh progresses. The traffic situation could be further improved however, by keeping the New Bern-Martin buses off the streets except once every hour, instead of once every third of an hour. That is, of course, after the people in the eastern part of the city who work for those in the northern and western sections have been delivered to their jobs, and until it is time for them to get back home.

WISE MOVE

The decision of the Army officials to keep to a minimum the number of Negro draftees to be trained in the southern states is a wise one. It should boost the morale of the inductees and Negro civilians alike, and at the same time should cause no resentment in the South.

Soldiers in the mass are not likely to be welcomed enthusiastically by any community, because of the problems they create. Proximity to a training camp spells financial gain to a community, but except for the business men who benefit directly by the presence of a concentration of trainees, the community is likely to look at the camp as somewhat of a burden, however necessary.

Southern communities located near training camps have in general been more hostile to Negro troops than have communities in other parts of the country. The determination to enforce jim-crow has usually been stimulated rather than otherwise by the presence of the colored troops in southern localities, and in many cases the army officers have joined with

the community in making life in town miserable and even hazardous for Negro trainees.

This is not to say either that there has been no prejudice against Negroes in communities outside the South near training camps, nor that there has been no coolness or resentment toward white trainees. Nor is it implied that troops, black or white, do not often create difficult and irksome problems. What is being said here is that there are more tough breaks in the South for Negro trainees than in other sections of the country. Jim-crow laws in themselves establish a major hazard to the safety, contentment and morale of the colored soldiers. The Army will therefore be acting wisely in avoiding those hazards just as far as it can. All concerned will benefit, and no one will be harmed.

The Army owes its draftees, especially in peacetime, as good a life as it can afford to give them. It certainly then owes its Negro personnel as much security and as much freedom as can be gained by carefully selecting the localities in which they must live while in training.

THE GATES COUNTY AFFAIR

Relatively little publicity has been given by North Carolina dailies to the Gates County school controversy, and it is unfortunate that this is so. It would seem that these are the facts:

The school authorities of the county had made plans for consolidating certain white schools in Gates County. Such a move would have released two school buildings previously used for whites, and these were to be used as Negro schools. When certain patrons of these schools, which had fine plants, learned of the plans, they began to protest loudly and violently, some even threatening to dynamite the schools should the plans for re-allocation be carried through.

After much local strife it seems that the patrons appealed to the State Board of Education, which reversed the local authorities and ruled that the school situation would remain as before, the school buildings involved in the controversy to be retained as white schools.

Now there are often strong local objections to consolidation, involving the abandonment of neighborhood schools and the transportation of children to a consolidated school, with attendant practical losses as well as sentimental bruises. It would seem that those were the types of objections aired by the Gates County whites at the State Board hearing. The Negro press, however, and an apparently white person who wrote a letter on the subject to the News and Observer, seem to believe that the main issue was not consolidation, but the turning over of good school buildings to Negroes. The local objectors are said to have declared (not in Raleigh but at home) that the buildings were "too good for Negroes." The implication drawn here is that the objection was not so much to the new arrangements for whites as to the great benefits which would be incidentally reaped by Negroes through the change.

If this latter analysis of the situation is the truer one, then it is a shame and a pity. We do not know that this is the true situation, because of the lack of information furnished by the press on the whole thing. But there seems to be evidence that there is a lot in this racial diagnosis of the Gates County affair, though race may not be the only element. To the extent that the racial situation does enter, we have one more example of how hypocritical is the "separate but equal" theory when it comes to the "equal" end of the proposition.

We may be sure that the Gates County authorities were not consciously doing anything to favor Negroes as against the interests of whites; that they were acting in good faith in whatever changes they planned. If their plans were side-tracked primarily because the white parents were convinced that those buildings were "too good" for Negroes, the Gates County affair was truly a discreditable one, and there is no wonder that so little has been heard of the "inside" of it through the daily papers.



Second Thoughts

By C. D. HALLIBURTON

It has been gratifying to note that the press of the state and of the South, insofar as we have been able to follow it, has in general condemned editorially the disgraceful reception accorded Henry Wallace in this state, or in certain cities and towns in which he stopped while touring North Carolina on his campaign. News and Observer were again through the South. Many letters to the editor of the News also emphasized in their condemnation of the inhuman activities of a small number of North Carolinians who held the state up to censure by their very irresponsible and despicable behavior.

North Carolina has been made to look all the worse by contrast with states farther South. It seems that the fruit-vegetable-egg barage all but ceased when Mr. Wallace crossed the North Carolina line into Alabama.

A careful analysis of the events along Mr. Wallace's route will reveal, however, that the pattern was not as simple as it might have appeared to be at first glance. Without defending with any specious arguments the state which I call home, I would like to call attention to the fact that though Mr. Wallace did speak to unsegregated audiences in Memphis and some other more pronouncedly Deep

South type cities, he avoided clashes with the misadventuring element in several others perhaps only because he refused to speak before a segregated audience, and therefore did not appear at all.

And there is the point. Several writers have expressed the view that what riled the North Carolinians most was what Mr. Wallace did here that he did nowhere else in the South. So far as we have heard there was no attempt to bar Mr. Wallace from a hearing before an unsegregated audience anywhere in North Carolina. But more important than that, it had no effect on what Negroes in Durham heard his first Tarheel stop.

We think then that it was not a man named Wallace the broker, or Wallace the alleged fellow-traveler who was the target for Tarheel eggs and tomatoes as it was Wallace the comforter with publicans and sinners, that is, black folk. This is not my own idea; it was derived partly from what I read from the Baltimore Sun to editorial implications in newspapers published within an hour of letters written to editors by Tarheel citizens.

We hold no kind of brief for the raffians who physically attacked Wallace in North Carolina, but we contend that in a number of other places he visited on his southern tour he

would not have been permitted to domicile with publicans and sinners, that is, Negroes. I think that not only do colored people of North Carolina take a kind of consolation and even wring pride in the fact that Wallace did put up with Negro hosts in Durham, but that a lot of white people who wouldn't admit it publicly for love or money are also proud of the fact, in a shamefaced way, that it could happen here, though they would all agree for the record it was a foolish thing for Wallace to do.

These people shake their heads over what they variously characterize as Wallace's play to the grandstand for Negro votes, or his misplaced idealism, or his audacious and reprehensible disregard for southern propriety and convention. But at least some of them admire his consistency and his courage, albeit in secret, and some of them are secretly pleased that in this North Carolina showed a tolerance that the spattered egg and the crushed tomato cannot obscure. And this in spite of the fact that they would not be caught dead doing the thing that Wallace did. Frankly, in the same position I wouldn't either. And that's one of the reasons why I—and they—have to admire him, even if we can't vote for him.

ADVISORY COLUMN

ABBE WALLACE—I have been going with this trend for nearly a year. Last week he gave me a beautiful radio-phonograph console that cost three hundred dollars. I know that he owes for me but when I want to know why won't he do the thing that I want him to do always?

Ans.—You expect too much of your friend. He loves you and approves it. But—he's not the type to let any woman "chuck" him to the extent of dancing to their tune about every little thing. He is going to exercise his own judgment at times and you may as well appreciate this fact. You will admire him much more for doing so.

S.M.—I received a letter from a man in the north selling lots as low as \$75. I want to know if I should go ahead and buy one of these lots?

Ans.—Don't invest any money in property which you have not seen. You are not familiar with this part of the country and it is doubtful if you would ever care to live there. Before buying a lot anywhere—look it over

investigate the title and avoid costly complications. I shall be glad to go into your second problem if you will write me privately.

C.B.—I have been sick for the past year and the doctors here do not seem to know my trouble. My husband is urging me to make

the trip to Baltimore and go to John Hopkins for a diagnosis. Do you think it would be a waste of money?

Ans.—Absolutely not. It is precisely what you should do since you have not been able to get relief from the treatment you have received. Your husband considers your health far more important than the money he has saved and is ready and willing to spend every cent of it if necessary in order for you to enjoy better health.

G.H.C.—Last November I met Joe for the first time. He was in college and therefore did not have much money. I felt sorry for him and helped him out financially and did without to give him nice things for school. He

never seemed to appreciate it one bit. In fact, he was always wanting more. When he went home this summer he said he would be too busy to write and asked me not to bother about it either. Now he returns this month and I want to know how to treat him?

Ans.—As a stranger, he does not hold the same affection for you as you think you have for him. Also—he's much too young for you to lose your head about. You won't gain his favor by doling out your hard earned dollars. Search for companionship with men around your own age.

J.T.—I bought a grocery store business the first of April. I can't see where I am making any money at all. In fact, my finances are not as good as they were before I started with this store. A friend of mine has offered to buy me out at a good margin of profit. Should I sell or hold on as I am not happy about it at all?

Ans.—Let it go—it's not good business to hold on to an investment that does not net a profit. All your efforts on your cafe as it does net you a nice profit.

Letter To The Editor

Dear Editor:—Your timely editorial in the current issue, "North Carolina Shames," should be widely read. As a native Tar Heel, it has brought to my mind the fact that for the past years we have been deficient to boast of the progress and liberality of the old North State.

I am, even as yet, disappointed to accept as true that those ugly demonstrations directed towards Mr. Wallace and party, by a few misguided ones, are representative of the average North Carolinian. Leaving N. C. for a deeper penetration of the south, and a more liberal attitude, assumed, these scenes bring to my mind the ugly reception of him in N. C. into sharper focus, and certainly nothing to be proud of.

The Progressive Daily's president

candidate, closed his southern tour in Knoxville at Mr. Olive (Negro) Baptist Church, where a packed house of both racial groups sat indiscriminately, and cheered wildly his pronouncement, "Segregation and Jim Crowism have no place in any section of our common country today."

Storn-faced officers by the score, led by Chief Joe Kinsey, stood with-in and outside the church, during the Wallace speech, as Negro high school youth picketed the white students picketers, the latter carrying banners, "Back to Moscow, Henry — Jim Crow must stay." "We want Wallace — Jim Crow must go" read the Negro's banner, who arrived on the scene a little late, causing a tense moment, as they boldly muscled "Chen-

selves in between the white picketers. Drastic, but timely orders barked by the cops to "keep moving" over one of you" probably overtook a serious physical clash.

Any one with eyes that see, may know that the south is in process of rebirth, there is obviously much to support this claim. If, therefore, both Negro and white can be a bit patient with what both may honestly and justifiably feel is a short-coming in the other, until a better understanding is had, a new south is certainly on the way in, thanks to a younger and rising generation, and it will arrive too, make no mistake about that.

Sincerely yours,
O. B. TAYLOR, M. D.
Knoxville, Tenn.



BETWEEN THE LINES

BY DEAN B. HANCOCK FOR ANP

THE APPROACHING ELECTION AN INTERRACIAL POLL

The pros and cons of interracial progress can be debated indefinitely. There are those who assert that race relations are in a state of deterioration. These view with alarm the resurgence of Negrophobia throughout the south and in a lesser degree throughout the country. The southern demagogues are reverting to the Ben Tillman-Hoke-Smith-Vardaman-Heflin type of campaign.

The late Gene Talmadge of Georgia was the prophet of the new era of racial hatred. The appeal of these demagogues to the baser passions of the people has dangerous implications. This fact must never be minimized or discounted. The Negroes of the country have chosen to make a frontal attack on southern traditions and it is not surprising if these "latter day" Negrophobes do no close to counter in kind, that is by frontal attacks.

The rise of the Dixiecrats with their state rights campaign is no more than a polite way of saying with the demagogues of the past, "keep the Negro down." The current campaign of South Carolina's Gov. Strom Thurmond is hardly more than a revamped Tillmanism, Bilboism, Rankinism, Talmadgism and all the other anti-Negro isms that flourish in the south. Because the issues are so tightly drawn on state rights and the implications thereof, the coming election is going to be largely in the nature of an interracial poll telling where the Negro stands in the hearts and minds of the people of the nation. The Dixiecrats will serve that one good purpose of letting the world and the Negro know how stands the case of race relations in this country.

The strength of Dixiecracy is the strength of the opposition to the Negro's full citizenship. The weakness of Dixiecracy will indicate how far the Negro has gone in winning the war for democracy for Negroes. There are those of us interracialists who at times grow hopeful at some display of this nation's more favorable attitude, while at other times despairing because of what amounts to a national "gang up" on the Negro in his drive for his rights. But the story will be told in November in terms that cannot be mistaken.

A more momentous election, as it concerns the Negro, has never been held in this country and it all stems from the civil rights stand of President Truman which set off a species of resentment among the Negrophobes that is shaking this nation to its very foundations. November will tell the story! However the elections may go, Truman must be credited with having focused the attention of the nation and world on the step-citizenship of the Negro. A large part of the nation is ashamed and the others will vote with the Dixiecrats.

A POLITICAL FEAST FOR NEGROES

The approaching elections will not only be the most illuminating interracial poll ever held in this country or in history, but it will give the Negro one of the finest political feasts ever offered a minority group. There is our good friend Henry Wallace, who is without doubt one of the best men in the country, in fact too good for the presidency.

It is unfortunate that his Progressive party is threatening to become an all-Negro party. For demonstrational purposes and for dramatic displays of sure-enough democracy, the Progressive under the leadership of Wallace will serve a good purpose. But even the most intoxicated optimist of the Wallaceites does not even faintly envision Wallace's election. But for the Negro and while idealists Wallace and his platform offer a happy political diet.

But for the realists who want to get something started, the race is between Dewey and Truman. But in the background of all parties and candidates will be the lurking color question and the victors and the vanquished alike in the coming election will throw light on the progress of race relations in this country.

We are now largely in the "guess stage" but we are going enter the "know stage" come the November elections. With either the election of Dewey or Truman will come tokens of a better day for Negroes. For the first time in this country's history, the Negro can play "Across the board" with hope of winning!



THOUGHT

A man who does a little more work than he is asked to do. Who takes a little more care than he is expected to— Who puts the small details on an equal footing with the more important ones— He's the man who is going to make a success of his job. Each little thing done better is the thin wedge to something bigger. —Author Unknown.

DIGESTING THE NEWS

PRACTICAL DEMOCRACY — Author James Street, Chapel Hill, N. C. — A radical, but right on the question of the Negro. Author Street is a believer in organic farming and that the southern Negro, given the opportunity would prove himself to be a responsible husbandman, capable of administering a long range program in farming. He took as partner, Eddie Blackwell, Chapel Hill resident, and made him a full-fledged sharer in the total profits after expenses were cleared. Street allowed himself 3 years and \$25,000 (including the \$10,000 purchase price) for the most broken-down farm he could find. After passing up two of them because they were too good, he finally selected the Lustra Church farm in Chatham County.

Though the three years are up and \$25,000 are gone Street feels that he and Eddie have been successful in creating interest in organic farming by showing he could transform worn out soil into fertile land. Over 500 persons visited the Lustra Church farm in Chatham this year. —Time Marches On.

GOOD NEWS AID FOR TEACHERS — The State Board of Education answered the plight of teachers in schools delayed in opening by the police epidemic by deciding to pay them at the end of two weeks of teaching, and again at the end of 7 weeks and the third check after 12 weeks. Thank you... Many will be saved from severe travel by the gesture.

CUSTOM — 400 gypsies mourn the death of their queen, Mrs. Melvina Mitchell, as the result of her death members of the tribe will wear no jewelry for six weeks, and the men will not shave. They will wear the same clothes, and not comb their hair for three days. There was a rush of little school boys to join the tribe for the period.

HAUNTED — Two violent deaths have occurred beside the home of Mayor W. F. Carr, Durham, N. C., in the past fortnight. The last one happened Friday night, the 10th, each tragedy was the result of women, wives and sweethearts, badgering for the affection of dear hubby. In there is really a genuine shortage of manpower ladies? Light never strikes twice they said—Me thinks 'tis a shadow of the Roaring Twenties.

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